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# Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01

/071 W
---------- 016327
O R 151640Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5019
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0272

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SF, US, UNSC, AO
SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON ANGOLA

1. THIS AFTERNOON (MARCH 15) FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER
CALLED THE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR (IN REPRESENTATION OF EC-9)
AND ME TO HIS OFFICE FOR SEPARATE MEETINGS TO DISCUSS
SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THE ANGOLAN QUESTION.
HE LED OFF BY SAYING THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION IN
NEW YORK HAD REPORTED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE ANGOLAN
ITEM MIGHT COME UP FOR DISCUSSION AS EARLY AS WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 17. HE COMMENTED THAT THIS WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE
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SINCE IT COULD UNDO CURRENT EFFORTS THROUGH AFRICAN

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STATES TO WORK OUT AN UNDERSTANDING WITH MPLA REGARDING TRAFNSFER OF PROTECTION OF THE CUNENE-CALUEQUE WORKS.

2. MULLER REAFFIRMED SOUTH AFRICA'S DESIRE TO PULL ITS FORCES BEHIND THE BORDER AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. HE REFERRED TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OVER THE WEEKEND OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS FROM THE REFUGEE CAMPS (CAPE TOWN 0268). HE ALSO NOTED THE VORSTER INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN THE LONDON SUNDAY TELEGRAPH ON MARCH 14 EXPRESSING THE DESIRE TO REMOVE ALL TROOPS FROM ANGOLAN SOIL AS SOON AS ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE FOR SECURITY OF THE WORK FORCE. I GATHER THESE WERE CALUCLATED MOVES TO REASSURE THE MPLA AND BLACK AFRICANS THAT THE SAG IS SINCERE IN WANTING TO GET OUT.

3. MULLER SAID THAT CURRENT EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE MPLA THROUGH AFRICAN STATES HAVE NOT YET SUCCEEDED. HE ATTRIBUTED THIS NOT TO LACK OF WILL ON PART OF THE SAG OR THE MPLA BUT TO THE SLOWNESS OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN AFRICAN STATES. HE WAS HOPEFUL THAT BY NEXT WEEK OR TWO THE NECESSARY LINK COULD BE ESTABLISHED.

4. HE ASKED THAT I RELAY TO THE DEPARTMENT THE SAG'S STRONG HOPE THAT THE US AND THE EC-9 WILL USE THEIR INFLUENCE WITH THE OAU COUNTIRES TO OBTAIN A DELAY IN THE SEUCIRTY COUNCIL DEBATE AT LEAST UNTIL THE WEEK OF MARCH 22 AND PREFERABLY THE WEEK OF MARCH 29. I ASKED HIM WHETHER SOUTH AFRICA HAD ASKED THE BLACK AFRICAN STATES TRYING TO MAKE THE CONNECTION WITH THE MPLA TO USE THERI GOOD OFFICES WITH THEIR OAU COLLEAGUES TO THIS SAME END. HE REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

5. IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS OPERATING ON THE BASIS OF A SPECIFIC TARGET DATE FOR REACHING AGREEMENT WITH THE MPLA OR SIMPLY PLAYING FOR TIME, I ASKED MULLER WHETHER SOME COMMUNICATIONS HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED WITH MPLA GIVING RISE TO THE EXPECTATION THAT SOMETHING COULD BE WORKED OUT IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO. HE DID NOT GIVE A DIRECT RESPONSE, SAYING THAT WHAT CONFIDENTIAL

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SOUTH AFRICA NEEDS IS TIME AND RRPEATING THE REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT UNTIL AT LEAST MARCH 22 IF NOT MARCH 29.

6. COMMENT: I AM NOT ABLE TO JUDGE WHETHER OR NOT MULLER'S REQUEST IS GENUINE OR A PLOY TO TRY TO GAIN POSTPONEMENT OF THE DEBATE UNTIL APRIL. I AM INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT HE AND VORSTER ARE SINCERE WHEN THEY SAY THAT THEY WANT TO GET OUT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE BUT

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NEED SOME KIND OF AN ASSURANCE ON RUACANA-CALUEQUE.
THIS ASSURANCE IS PROBABLY AS IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE
ITALIAN CONTRACTOR AND PORTUGUESE WORKMEN ON THE JOB
AS IT IS TO PROTECT VORSTER'S FLANKS FROM CRITICISM
AT HOME. UNLESS THERE IS STRONG PRESSURE BY THE
BLACK AFRICANS TO THE CONTRARY, I THINK ON BALANCE
THAT IT WOULD BE WORTH GIVING THE SOUTH AFRICANS
THE ADDITIONAL TIME TO CONTACT THE MPLA.
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# Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PROTECTIVE SECURITY, UNSC RESOLUTIONS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 15 MAR 1976
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1976CAPET00272
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** GS
**Errors:** N/A
**Film Number:** D760097-0258
**From:** CAPE TOWN
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760361/aaaacbvy.tel
**Line Count:** 124
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
**Office:** ACTION IO
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Page Count:** 3
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** n/a
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Authority:** ElyME
**Review Comment:** n/a
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 14 MAY 2004
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Referrals:** n/a
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON ANGOLA
**TAGS:** PFOR, SF, US, AO, UNSC, MPLA, EEC
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006